Vol. 6 #2
January, 1990

# THE THIRD DECADE A JOURNAL OF RESEARCH ON THE JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1963 1973 1983 1993

ISSN 0888-5230

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# THE JFK ASSASSINATION FILES: DID YOU KNOW?

by
G.J. Rowell

(Editor's note: with this issue, we begin a series of short material in a "column" format prepared by Rowell. Readers are invited to send any news, views or comments to: G.J. Rowell, 1529 Elizabeth St., Bay City, Michigan 48708.)

...In the aftermath of the November 22, 1989 remote-controlled bomb assassination of Lebanese President Rene Mouawad, anchorman Tom Brokaw reported on the NBC Nightly News program that United States President George Bush offered American assistance in tracking down the killers of slain President Mouawad. It's too bad that President Bush didn't make the same offer to track down the killers of President John F. Kennedy.

...Abraham Bolden, the former Secret Service agent who told of a Chicago JFK assassination plot, was quoted by Paris Flammonde, author of The Kennedy Conspiracy, as stating that Lee Harvey Oswald blurted out during his Dallas interrogation, "Ruby hired me.!"

...A handwriting expert brought in to examine Oswald's "Historic Diary" declared that the whole Diary had been written in two separate sessions.

...Gregory Basila, a San Antonio pharmacist, was reportedly told by a Cuban on November 21, 1963, that "Kennedy will be killed in Dallas tomorrow."

...According to Stephen White's book, Should We Now Believe the Warren Report?, Lawrence Schiller claimed to have reproduced the famous (infamous?) backyard photo on 214 Neeley Street by photographing the scene at the exact day of the year and at the same time as the original photo. He shot his photo on March 31, 1967, and it was featured in the four part CBS News Inquiry: The Warren Report documentary. This photo was NOT featured in White's book and it was also NOT featured in the hatchet job The Scavengers and Critics of the Warren Report penned by Schiller and Richard Warren Lewis. If you're reading this, Mr. Schiller, perhaps you could send me a copy of your photo at the address shown above so that I could judge for myself whether or not you know what you are talking about and have successfully duplicated the errant shadows.

...Commission Exhibit 2585, which reports on the results of the FBI's investigation of the claims in author Thomas G. Buchanan's book Who Killed Kennedy?, states that "A Special Agent of this Bureau on the scene at the time of the arrest of Oswald has advised that Oswald was not mistreated and that no force was used to subdue him other than that necessary to overcome his armed resistance." This would be news to George Applin, Jr., a witness to the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald at the Texas Theatre, who told of a police officer that had forcefully slammed down a shotgun on the back of Oswald. Mr. Applin also revealed that he thought he recognized one of the theater patrons that afternoon---he believed that a man sitting near him was none other than Jack Ruby!

...William M. Kline, chief of the U.S. Customs Bureau investigative services in Laredo, Texas, stated on November 25, 1963 that Oswald's movements were watched at the request of "a federal agency in Washington" and Eugene Pugh, U.S. agent in charge of the Customs office on the American side of the bridge in Laredo, said that Oswald had been checked by American immigration officials on entering and leaving Mexico and Mr. Pugh admitted that this was "not the usual" procedure "but U.S. immigration has a folder on Oswald's trip."

...During a taped interview, Dallas researcher Mary Ferrell pointed out that she believed that Lee Harvey Oswald usually spent time at the local library after work and that on November 22nd the Dallas police received an anonymous tip that the Tippit murder suspect was at the library--- even though Oswald was not a specific suspect at this time. Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry later wrote that the library suspect turned out to be a young boy who ran into the library to tell of the shooting.

...The late Clay L. Shaw, the only man ever tried for conspiracy to murder President Kennedy, was quoted as saying, "...Mr. Garrison said to a journalist that I'd never come to trial, I'd commit suicide first. And I've heard it said by those who are aware of such things that I wouldn't come to trial because I'd be assassinated."

...Judge Jim Garrison, the former flamboyant District Attorney of New Orleans, reveals in his latest book, On The Trail of The Assassins, that Clay L. Shaw and David Ferrie had put a contract out on his life.

...Michael Canfield, who co-authored the book Coup d'etat In America with Alan J. Weberman, found and interviewed former Deputy Constable Seymour Weitzman about the fake Secret Service agent that Weitzman encountered on the grassy knoll immediately after the shots rang out in Dealey Plaza. He showed Mr. Weitzman some photographs and Mr. Weitzman identified one of the photos as the fake Secret Service agent. The photo selected was of Bernard Barker---one of the men arrested at the Watergate!

...Thanks go out to Hugh McDonald for the two books that he wrote on the Kennedy assassination; for now we know what drivel and disinformation are.

...France's late great leader, Charles De Gaulle, while discussing the Kennedy assassination and Lee Harvey Oswald, was quoted as saying, "The police were in on the job. Either they ordered it done or they allowed it to happen."

...Authors Robert J. Groden and Harrison Edward Livingstone, High Treason, originally discounted the David Lifton theory that JFK's body was abducted aboard Air Force One and tampered with while enroute to Bethesda Naval Hospital; however, they now believe Lifton's theory of the body abduction---or that JFK's body may have been spirited directly out of Parkland Memorial Hospital. In reviewing how this Parkland abduction may have taken place, I came across the Warren Commission's TOP SECRET Price Exhibit 33, the statement of Charles J. Price, the administrator of Parkland Memorial Hospital, who mentions two different episodes of showing Secret Service men a tunnel exit in the hospital basement on that fateful Friday.

...Since no Hall of Fame exists for assassination researchers and others who have sought the truth about the death of President Kennedy, I am going to start an Assassination Researcher Hall of Fame in this column. The first five inductees into the Hall of Fame are: Harold Weisberg, Mark Lane, Sylvia Meagher, Penn Jones, Jr. and Thomas Buchanan.

## CROSSFIRE: A REVIEW
by
Jerry D. Rose

Jim Marrs, Crossfire: The Plot That Killed Kennedy (New York: Carroll and Graf, 1989). "Do not trust this book," Jim Marrs cautions his readers at the opening of the Preface. Excellent advice this, in the context of an admonition to readers to think for themselves rather than taking on faith or wishful thinking any of the myriad of "theories" about the assassination. There is more than a touch of irony, however, in the opening injunction to self-reliance in assassination study. The central critical issue of my review of the book will be precisely the trustworthiness of this, the latest comprehensive assessment of the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Marrs' credibility is greatly enhanced by his background in assassination research. Unlike such other recent authors as Anthony Summers and Henry Hurt, Marrs has been centrally involved in assassination research for many years. A free-lance writer who has been close to people the likes of Jeanne De Mohrenschildt and Marguerite Oswald, as well as to such fellow "Texas researchers" as Gary Mack, Jack White, Gary Shaw and Penn Jones, Jr., he produced a number of newspaper articles on his research and has taught a research-oriented course for many years at the University of Texas, Arlington. His familiarity with all aspects of the case and his virtuosity as a writer are abundantly displayed in this book, making its reading an excellent introduction to the reader who is relatively new to the study of the case.

With these credentials in his background, Jim Marrs' book deserves, I think, more trust than it is likely to receive. The problem is in the author's and/or publisher's decision to eschew any kind of footnoting or any reference citations. The excuses for this, offered in "Notes on Sources" at the head of the book---that extensive footnoting would "impede the flow of ideas" and that sources such as the Warren Report are notoriously unreliable---simply will not wash. Summers and Hurt, among others, used a referencing style of placing citations at the end of the book without any noticeable "impediment" to the excellent flow of ideas in their books. Nor is there any obvious excuse---except the publication costs thereof---for omitting an index to the work. Despite a very rational and meaningful table of contents, the lack of an index will create needless problems in the location of individual nuggets in this gold mine of information.

These editorial comments aside for the moment, I want to focus most of my remaining comments on matters of interest to the specialist in JFK assassination research; not necessarily the most significant material for explicating the case to the layperson, but important in relation to the prime purpose of this Journal: to advance our knowledge of this subject. Given my familiarity with some of the original findings of Marrs and his Dallas-area students, I could "hardly wait"